



BALTIMORE CITY COMMISSION ON AGING AND RETIREMENT EDUCATION (CARE)



“CARE - The primary public agency in the city responsible for advocating for and delivering services to the older adult population, their family and caregivers in the City of Baltimore”

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Mayor Martin O'Malley

John P. Stewart, Executive Director

Baltimore City Commission on Aging and Retirement Education (CARE)



CARE, the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Baltimore City, is the primary public agency in Baltimore responsible for developing, coordinating, delivering and funding a broad range of programs and services to older adults, their family members and caregivers throughout the City. Our primary focus is advocating for older adults and providing “positive customer service” to ensure the most favorable outcome for our older adults as they move along the aging continuum in the city.

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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MARTIN O'MALLEY MAY 2006



It is with great pride that I share with you the Baltimore City Commission on Aging and Retirement Education's (CARE) 2005 Annual Report. CARE, in partnership with other senior-serving organizations, is the primary public agency in the city responsible for advocating for and delivering services to the older adult population, their families and caregivers in the City of Baltimore. CARE's vision to make Baltimore the *most elderly-friendly city in America* is one that I promote, as I envision a place where all of our older adults will have the opportunity to age with choice, independence, and dignity as they move along the aging continuum. This is accomplished through the many programs and services CARE provides to our older adults.

I encourage you to review the many accomplishments and challenges CARE embarked upon in 2005, while continuing to provide quality services and resources to the city's older adult population. Stay tuned and look forward to hearing more about the Urban Aging Initiative which will change the way we shape services, influence policy and invest in our older adults to improve aging services in Baltimore City.

Collectively, we are committed to provide older adults with resources and opportunities that will enrich their lives and make *Baltimore the most senior-friendly City in America*.

Martin O'Malley
Mayor



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY 2006

I am pleased to have the opportunity and honor to serve in the administration of Mayor Martin O'Malley as the Executive Director of CARE. The O'Malley administration and President Sheila Dixon, as well as the entire Baltimore City Council are strongly interested in and committed to serving older adults, their caregivers, and senior-serving organizations in Baltimore. With that in mind, we plan to continue to build upon our past successes in designing, coordinating, and delivering innovative and comprehensive services to older adults in Baltimore, and to be recognized as a national leader in providing exemplary services designed to improve the quality of life for older adults. To that end, we are striving to achieve Mayor O'Malley's vision of "Making Baltimore the Most Aging-Friendly City in America".

As you can see, 2005 was a productive and dynamic year for CARE as we were presented with a number of opportunities and challenges in meeting the needs of older adults in Baltimore. We continue to explore innovative ways in which we can better serve seniors in light of the increasing need and demand for services, limited State and Federal funds, and the unique challenges facing older adults living in an urban environment like Baltimore City.

During the past year, I had the opportunity and honor to meet many of our senior citizens and to confer with federal, state, and local aging officials regarding aging services. Based on these experiences, CARE has established and accomplished a number of priorities and objectives designed to improve the agency's overall performance, cost effectiveness, customer service, and service delivery systems. We have and will continue to address a wide range of issues and concerns impacting the aging population in Baltimore and the fundamental changes that will be required in order to meet the challenges of the current aging population and the future baby-boom generation. We take our role seriously as the primary advocate for older adults in Baltimore and we will remain dedicated to our mission of "Helping Older Adults Live Better in Baltimore....One Day at a Time."

We look forward to the up coming year and the opportunity to embark on new initiatives and projects that will position us to better serve the "guardians of our city" and to create a blue print for an aging-friendly city in Maryland and in the entire country.

This report provides information regarding CARE's organizational structure, vision, mission, budget, major highlights and accomplishments, special events, projects and initiatives during 2005, as well as opportunities and challenges in 2006 and beyond. In addition, this publication describes the people served, the services provided, and aging demographic trends in the City.

On behalf of the entire staff at CARE, I want to thank all of our partners and friends for your cooperation and support in 2005, and that we look forward to and need your continued support in the future.

*John P. Stewart,
Executive Director*

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